

The date on which your subscription expires will be found on the wrapper.
The paper will be stopped on that day unless previously renewed.
No bills or receipts sent to individual subscribers.

The



People.

Agents sending in subscriptions without remittance must state distinctly how long they are to run.
Agents are personally charged with and held responsible for unpaid subscriptions sent in by them.
Only duly elected and approved agents acknowledged.

VOL. VIII.—NO. 21.

NEW YORK, AUGUST 21, 1898.

PRICE 2 CENTS.

ON TO THE 100,000.

State Conventions in Washington State, Michigan, Wisconsin.

In Washington State.

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 5.—The State Convention of the Socialist Labor party of Washington was held at Theosophical Hall, No. 1118 Third avenue, Seattle, July 31, 1898, and a fine showing of class-conscious delegates was made. All the sections in the State were represented and there were several delegates from places in the State where Sections were not yet organized.

A STATE TICKET was nominated as follows:

For Congress, two to elect:
WALTER WALKER, of Seattle.
M. A. HAMILTON, of Whatcom.

For Judges of Supreme Court:
THOMAS YOUNG, of Whatcom.
THOMAS LAWRY, of Seattle.

A good deal of work was done and more laid out to be done by a State campaign committee, which was elected, one member from each section and one at large.

The following platform and resolutions were adopted:

1. "The Socialist Labor party, of the State of Washington, in its first annual convention, affirms its allegiance to the Socialist Labor party of the United States, and endorses the platform adopted at the last national convention and to the principles of international Socialism."

2. "WHEREAS, The present capitalist system of production for profit, private ownership of the means of production and distribution, and the wage system, is reducing the great army of wealth producers to a condition of abject slavery, while, at the same time, blocking further industrial progress, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That we appeal to our brother workers and intelligent people everywhere to earnestly and diligently study and compare the laws of capitalism and the principles of Socialism, without prejudice, that they may become clear on the cause of the class struggle that disunites humanity and makes its condition deplorable even at its best. And when this clearness, as to their rights as human beings comes to them we urge that they immediately affiliate themselves with the only party of true economic emancipation—the international Socialist Labor party."

ON "FUSION."

3. "WHEREAS, Much has been said by men who are honestly and otherwise disposed about a union of forces more definitely expressed as 'fusion,' all of which is a lack of knowledge of, or clearness on the present stage of social or economic revolution, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That we extend to all reform forces, political or economic, an invitation to study the platform and principles of the Socialist Labor party, and when they have become convinced of the justice and practicability of the same, so that they can endorse it and renounce their affiliation with all capitalist parties, middle-class movements, or factions of the same, we will receive them as comrades in the great class-conscious revolutionary army that is now steadily mustering its forces, against all opposition, for economic emancipation. This shall be the only form or idea of fusion that will be entertained by this convention."

ON THE WAR.

4. "WHEREAS, There is a large number said to be intelligent and thoughtful people, who, it is claimed, believe that a war which would kill off a great number of the working people would be at least a temporary solution of the labor question, and who are, apparently, happy in the thought that this war will bring prosperity; and

"WHEREAS, We recognize this cruel and inhuman sentiment as a natural outgrowth of the present brutalizing capitalist system; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That we denounce a system that depends on war and brothers' blood to lubricate the wheels of prosperity, as cruel, barbarous and inhuman; and call upon the working people to stand up like men and overthrow it at the ballot box. And

"WHEREAS, The present war between the United States and Spain, while professedly for humanitarian purposes, is being used for capitalistic and commercial gain; therefore be it further

"RESOLVED, That we demand a speedy settlement of the war, and that it should be left to the Cubans, Porto Ricans and Philippines to establish their own government, without any outside intervention."

ON THE SUFFRAGE FOR WOMEN.

5. "WHEREAS, An amendment to the constitution of the State of Washington, granting equal suffrage to woman is to be submitted to the voters at the coming election; and

"WHEREAS, In the addenda to the national platform of the Socialist Labor party we declare for 'universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex.'"

"RESOLVED, That while it is the duty of Socialists to vote for such amendment, it is our further duty to warn woman that unless she use the ballot to gain economic equality, her condition, like that of man, will be deplorable. The value of the ballot is that it is a means to an end—which end is economic, as well as political freedom."

ON PARTY AND OTHER PRESS.

6. "RESOLVED, That we recommend all Sections and comrades to push the circulation of our party organs, THE PEOPLE, 'New Charter,' German and Scandinavian papers, and further, that we deprecate the circulation of the so-called Socialist papers that are, in any way, misty or vague in their ideas on

the teaching of the tenets of the Socialist Labor party."

Comrade T. J. Dean, Secretary of the State Committee, called the convention to order which was conducted under the chairmanship of Comrade Walker and secretaryship of Comrade Mat Watson.

The campaign committee elected prepared the following:

ADDRESS TO THE VOTERS TO THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.

The Socialist Labor party of the State of Washington appeal to our fellow-workers and intelligent people to carefully study the laws governing economics, that they may understand the exalted aim of the said party.

Their aim is to have ALL the people own collectively the machinery by which wealth is created, and to distribute such wealth to the people creating it.

To eliminate rent, interest and profit, the trinity of demons that are used by the capitalist to absorb from the worker all that he produces—except what will sustain his life and enable him to recreate his kind.

To eliminate "wage slavery" and set up in its stead co-operation for others' profit; but instead, to manufacture for their own use.

We beg of them to notice that by the use of labor-replacing machinery, untold thousands are in enforced idleness, while those employed are receiving starvation wages.

We beg of them to notice that this condition is being crystallized in all parts of the civilized world.

We beg of them to recollect that by the present method of the capitalist, competition is fast disappearing, except in the ranks of the wage-workers, who compete that they may exist.

We beg that they notice that the grand manhood of the American pioneer is fast disappearing and the workingman has become indeed a proletarian, while the capitalist has become the "Baron of Industry."

We beg of them that they recognize the fact that classes exist in this fair land, in quite as marked a degree as ever existed in the world.

We ask them to notice that there are three classes: 1. The capitalist class; 2. The middle-class—small tradesmen and farmers; and 3. The wage-working class. Let them further notice that the capitalist class are, gradually, but surely, absorbing the middle-class wealth; while the proletarian class are absorbing the middle-class people; and it is a question of but a little while when the middle class will have disappeared.

Recollect that the capitalist class has its mission to perform which is the concentration of wealth and the organization of industry.

Recollect that heretofore in all revolutions the exploited classes have overthrown their masters and these set up a new system of exploitation of their own—thus ever keeping a class in bondage.

And further remember that it is the high and noble mission of our present proletarian class, as embodied in the Socialist Labor party, to again overthrow our exploiters. But this time it will be for the benefit of all. This time no dogs shall be left. Each one shall have an equal opportunity. Each shall be a joint owner in the machinery of production and distribution.

Look, we beg of you, where your material interests lie. Are they with the capitalist or the proletarian? Are you conscious of the class to which you belong? When you are we want you. Our party stands with open arms to receive you—for the work is great and the conscious workers few.

Come with us, then, we pray you, in the grandest and greatest revolution in which man ever engaged.

The weapon we use is not to be the bludgeon, nor the bullet; but the ballot. It is to be a bloodless strife. This time we will use brain to conquer in place of brute force, and when we are understood the oppressed will rise up and call us blessed.

WASHINGTON STATE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

In Michigan.

DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 9.—The Socialist Labor party of the State of Michigan held a mass convention on the 30th of July, in Tinnette's Hall, to nominate a full State ticket.

The convention endorsed the National Platform and Resolutions, and in addition the following was also presented to the convention and unanimously adopted:

ON THE WAR.

WHEREAS, A state of war now exists between this country and Spain, in which large numbers of wage workers will be killed and maimed;

THEREFORE, We call the attention of the American wage worker to the fact that no matter which country wins, neither the condition of the wage workers of Cuba or America will be improved by reason of the fact that they will still be dependent upon the capitalist class for a chance to earn a living, and that by and through its ownership of the means whereby wealth is produced, the wage workers are compelled to sell their labor power as so much merchandise, which labor power is ever cheapened and underbid by improved machinery and methods of production and distribution; hence, there exist but one war which affects the wage worker, and that is the world-wide class war between the proletariat and capitalist class. In proof thereof we call your attention to the fact that the treatment of the miners at Hazleton, Pa., was no better than that accorded to the Cubans

by General Weyler; hence, we reassert the solidarity of the workers of the world, irrespective of creed, color or race, and, therefore, we call upon the American proletarian to join his party, the Socialist Labor party, and thus abolish the capitalist system and establish the co-operative commonwealth, in which we shall have peace and plenty.

ON THE PARTY PRESS.

That this convention endorse the course pursued by the party press toward the Social Democracy and labor fakirs.

ON THE S. T. & L. A.

That this convention endorse the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance of the United States and Canada, and recommend to all Sections in the State to, wherever practical, organize Local Alliances of the same as a means of strengthening the party, but where no S. T. & L. A. exists, that the members of the party join the respective unions of their craft, and there agitate for Socialism and use all means within their power to induce them to draw out of pure and simpleminded and join the S. T. & L. A., and

GREETINGS ABROAD.

RESOLVED, That the S. L. P. of Michigan send greetings through our party press to our comrades in Germany, France, Belgium, Italy, etc., for the magnificent gains they have made in the recent elections.

The following ticket was nominated:

For Governor,
GEORGE HASSELER.

For Lieutenant-Governor,
JOEL DEUGRY.

For Secretary of State,
PIETER FRIESEMA, JR.

For State Treasurer,
HENRY SIEVERS.

For Auditor General,
ANTHONY LOUWETT.

For Commissioner of State Land Office,
GUSTAVE ZANDERS.

For Superintendent of Public Instruction,
JOSEPH KOPYTKIWICZ.

For Member of State Board of Education,
CHRISTIAN VAHLBUSCH.

In Wisconsin.

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 14.—The S. L. P. State convention of Wisconsin met in this city in Harmony Hall. The stage was beautifully decorated with ferns and flowers, furnished at his private expense by Comrade Schmuck, who has a nursery in Greenfield. Besides the flowers and greens, the stage contained a beautiful display of bunting, and the pictures of Marx and Lassalle, together with the party's flag, were conspicuous in front.

The convention was called to order at 10 p. m. by Comrade Otto Gundermann, secretary of the State Committee, who delivered a short address. After the Liedertafel had sung two selections, Delegate L. Phillips, of Wausaw, was chosen temporary chairman and Frank Wilke, of Milwaukee, temporary secretary. The Committee on Credentials—Anderson, of Racine; Schubert, of Milwaukee, and Leisling, of Sheboygan—reported 102 delegates present and entitled to seats, representing, besides Milwaukee, Wausaw, Sheboygan, Racine, Root Creek, North Prairie, Marinette, Neenah, Oconomowoc, Cudahy, Oshkosh, Kenosha, Waukesha, Port Washington, Milton, Jaccsville, Two Rivers, St. Francis, Ashland and Monroe.

The temporary officers were made permanent and the report of the secretary of the State Committee was read. It appeared from the report that the spread of the party was meeting progress in the State. During the last year there were organized 17 new Sections. The report was accepted and ordered printed; it reveals great activity and successful work on the part of the State Committee.

The chairman expressed in a few touching words the sorrow of the convention at the death of the two pioneers of Socialism, Michael Schwab and Jacob Audorf, and the delegates rose in honor of the deceased comrades.

The delegates reported the work that is being done by their respective Sections and other matters affecting the movement. The most important of these were: The delegate from Sheboygan reported that the highest wages for ordinary work there was \$1 a day, and that, consequently the condition of workers was a sad one; the labor movement was split up; but the proletariat was turning more and more to the S. L. P., while the recently born Debs party was dying out.

Delegate Gleason, from Oshkosh, expressed himself sharply against the Mayor of Oshkosh. Elected by the joint votes of the Democrats and the Populists, he had greatly contributed to the disorders in the city. At a time when the city was still quiet, he caused special policemen to be sworn in. There was no cause for this; its only effect was to embitter the strikers.

Delegate Schubert reported for Milwaukee, showing the excellent condition of the Section and its stalwart work.

The reports of the delegates were frequently interrupted by applause.

The Committee on Nominations reported the following

TICKET

for the November elections:

For Governor,
HENRY RIESE,

of North Prairie.

For Lieutenant-Governor,
HERMAN GAUGHER,

of Milwaukee.

E. Baetell, of Milwaukee, for Secretary of State; Chas. Emmerich, of Oshkosh, for Attorney General; A. Greifenbagen, of Milwaukee, for Railroad Com-

missioner; R. Koppel, of Milwaukee, for Commissioner of Insurance, and Frank Wilke, of Milwaukee, for Superintendent of Education.

The ticket was unanimously accepted. The Committee on

PLATFORM

reported as follows:
"During the last twenty years a revolution has been accomplished in the economic and political institutions of the country. Private property, once in the possession of the numerous masses, has passed over into the hands of a few capitalists through the development of production.

"The capitalists utilize this revolution, not only for the purpose of enriching themselves ever more, but also for the purpose of ever more degrading and enslaving the workers. Capitalism has brought on the gradual disappearance of the so-called middle class; it has brought on misery and want to the producers of all wealth and degraded the wives and children of these to the condition of intellectual and physical cripples; it enacts class law and commits untold injustice;—and all this only in order to affirm its rule. Under this capitalist system, justice becomes a farce, and freedom a hollow phrase. Intelligence, the genius of Light and Truth, is not utilized for the purpose of elevating mankind, but for the purpose of degrading and enslaving it. All institutions that could be used for the benefit of the people are turned by the capitalist into dollars and cents for himself.

"All 'social reforms,' all 'philanthropies,' all attempts, proceeding from the rich classes to heal the social distemper, are ineffectual, corrupt and reactionary. The contrasts, between rich and poor, property-holders and non-property-holders can not be removed by any 'reforms'; they can be removed only by the complete overthrow of the present social and industrial system, and the establishment of the Socialist co-operative system.

"Proceeding from this logical point of view, we declare the class struggle to be the only means by which the working class can free themselves from their unworthy condition. We warn the workmen against all other parties, especially against the demagogues in the 'People's party' and the 'Social Democracy,' who continually keep the workers divided. We therefore call upon the workmen to join the Socialist Labor party—the only party that holds aloft, clear and unsullied, the banner of revolutionary and international Socialism.

"We endorse the policy of our national organs, THE PEOPLE and 'Vorwaerts,' and recommend to all workers that they subscribe for the same.

"We endorse the platform adopted by the Socialist Labor party, in national convention assembled, on July 4, 1896, in the city of New York.

The platform was adopted unanimously, and then the following

RESOLUTION

was presented and likewise adopted:

"We recommend to all our comrades and to all wage earners in the State of Wisconsin to build up a press fund in order to furnish the State Committee with the means to establish as soon as possible a militant organ of the party for this State, able to champion the interests of the wage earners in this State. The Milwaukee comrades have made the start, and already have collected a considerable sum, to which \$50 more are soon to be added.

As the convention was being held at the same time as the convention of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance in Buffalo, Delegate Anderson, of Racine, moved that a congratulatory be sent to the convention in Buffalo. The motion was unanimously carried and the secretary instructed accordingly.

The convention then adjourned, after being addressed by Delegate Hinkel, who urged the comrades to persevere in their stalwart work. The delegates then rose to their feet, sang the Marseillaise, and, amid cheers for the S. L. P., the convention adjourned sine die.

The workmen employed at Montauk Point to set up the soldiers' camp have been having their innings. The war, declared to be in favor of "freedom," and so forth, had, from the start brought only wounds and suffering to the workers, while to the capitalists it had brought in higher profits and sinecures in the army. Now the carpenters employed at the camp on Montauk Point, saw their chance and demanded higher wages. Capt. Young, in command, denounced them as unpatriotic; that had no effect; he tried bullying and browbeating, and even declared he felt like "ordering his squad of soldiers to turn their Krag-Jorgensens on the workmen." That did not work either, and the men got what they wanted—\$2.50 a day. Besides Capt. Young, Helen Gould, the prohibitionist and Standardist Wardwell and other capitalist war philanthropists have ever since been turning up their eyes heavenward, wondering how far the lack of patriotism and the un-Americanism of the working class will carry the workmen.

So do we wonder.

The gun of the war is sinking under a veritable mist of scandals. The revelations about Shafter's incompetence; the revelations about Camp Thomas, the sufferings of the men there and the speculation they are being made the subject of; the scandals about Montauk Point—these and many more affairs, now already known and yet to be known, are sure to furnish a magnificent setting to the stupendous fraud upon the working people that this whole "war for Cuba" has been.

IN OSHKOSH.

Revelations of the Lumber Mill Hands Strike.

Conditions of Dependence and Physical Deterioration to Which Capitalism Brings Down the Workers—Political Freedom Turned to a Farce—Progress is Throttled—Public Office Prostituted to Private Ends—The Blacklist System Develops into a Means of Coercion and Raising Profits.

OSHKOSH, Wis., Aug. 14—"The pauper labor of Oshkosh" sounds strange to Americans who have worried and prated over the pauper labor of Europe and who have taken up arms to liberate the oppressed of Cuba!

Presidents have been made and unmade on that issue, but the curse has been flung back in our teeth. We have to-day in America European conditions, and these conditions bring our working class abreast of their European fellow wage slaves, in the class struggle against the capitalist class.

The strike now going on here among the lumber mill employees fairly well illustrates the fact that our political institutions only theoretically establish freedom; that to establish freedom de facto our economic institutions must be adapted to the political; that the capitalist system of production and resultant slavery must be overthrown and in its stead raised the Socialist co-operative commonwealth.

George M. Paine, of the Paine Lumber Company, is the ruling spirit among the mill owners. He is very wealthy, and is said to be ambitious to shine among the millionaires of the country.

As an evidence in the manner in which the public views Mr. Paine and the wages he paid his employees this story is being told:

One of the Paine Lumber Company's employees became ill, but continued at work. He could not afford to be sick and idle at the same time, and avoided going to a doctor on account of the cost it would entail.

He continued to grow weaker and thinner, and in response to constant urging from his wife, he consulted a physician, who gave him a tonic.

In a few days the man returned and said to the physician:

"It's no use, Doctor. The medicine you gave me did me no good. I am growing weaker every day."

"Where do you work?" asked the physician.

"For the Paine Lumber Company."

The doctor put his hand in his pocket, pulled out half a dollar and handed it to the sick man.

"Here, take this and get yourself something to eat. That is the only medicine you need."

In line with this story a strange thing has been noticed by the citizens and strikers. Before the strike the workmen in the mills all had a haggard look, they were pale and thin and looked ready to drop.

Since being out on strike they have had fresh air and exercise, and now every one of them has a rugged, healthy look, far different from that which appeared while they were working ten hours a day for from 45 cents to \$1.50.

These 1,600 men who struck for better conditions were among the millions of workmen who in 1896 were coerced into voting for McKinley, at the same time that in other places, like in Colorado, they were coerced to vote for the silver wing of capitalism—Bryan.

The Saturday before election several of the mill owners sent a postal card to their employees, on which was the following:

"Present this card Monday evening and receive your pay." Monday evening, when they appeared for their wages, they were told that they were discharged.

"If McKinley is elected," they were informed, "we will give you employment Wednesday."

Postal cards were not sent out by the Gould Manufacturing Company. Harry Gould, however, took just as effective a way to impress upon the workmen that they should vote for McKinley.

"Just as soon as McKinley is elected," he said, "we will raise wages 10 per cent., and when we are sure of prosperity we will increase wages to the standard paid in 1893. The workmen are still waiting.

Blacklisting has been made a science in Oshkosh. An instance of this was told to-day by a prominent attorney.

"I knew a young man working for the Paine Lumber Company who made \$3 a day seven years ago," he said.

"He had a family of six children. Gradually his wages were reduced to \$1.75.

"He did not protest, and in a short time he was told that he would be paid only \$1.50 a day. He refused to accept this cut and quit work.

"The man then applied to the other factories for employment. At each of them he was told that he was just the man they wanted and he could go to work immediately.

"Upon saying that he had previously worked for the Paine Lumber Company, in answer to a question from the prospective employer, however, that person would hold a conversation with some one over the telephone, and when it was concluded he would be told that he was not wanted."

Mayor Ideon is the secretary of the Paine Lumber Company. These connections have been of great benefit to Mr. Paine, especially.

Valuable buildings in Oshkosh belonging to the Paine Lumber Company are assessed at only \$48,000, while the city furnishes him with a fire department, maintenance of which cost nearly as much as the taxes paid by the company.

Oshkosh should cast a good Socialist Labor party vote this November.

PATRIOTISM

As She Is Practised by the Railroad Companies.

In Anticipation of the War Revenue Law, the Railroads, that now are Patriotically "at their own Expense" Affixing the Revenue Stamps to Receipts, Bills of Lading, etc., Raised the Freight Rates in Such Manner as to Recoup Themselves at the Expense of the Small Fry.

"Trans-Continental Rates.—The St. Louis Traffic Bureau has filed an informal complaint, which is in the nature of a protest, against changes proposed to be made in west-bound trans-continental rates, under Trans-Continental Freight Bureau West-Bound Tariff No. 1-C (I. C. C. No. 88), dated June 2, 1898, and effective June 25, 1898. The new tariff materially increases rates on Classes 1, 2, 3 and 4, which cover less than carload shipments, and also by increases in less than carload commodity rates considerably widens the present disparity between rates on carload and less than carload quantities. The complaint states that the injury to the seller of goods in the East and to a great majority of the buyers in the West will be so great that correction should be made, without permitting the delay incident to a formal complaint and hearing. "This tariff is the direct result of the demands of the Pacific Coast jobbers that protective tariff be issued by the railroads that would force out or largely curtail eastern competition, thereby enabling them to sell goods at higher prices and better profits in all territory west of the Rocky Mountains."

"The difference between carload and less than carload rates on practically all the staple commodities enumerated in the tariff is so great as to prohibit the shipment in less than carload quantities, the difference in many cases being far greater than the profit on the goods."—Travelers' Guide.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 17.—In line with last week's remarks in THE PEOPLE on railway patriotism, the above clipping from the "Travelers' Official Guide" and the following explanations are timely:

The roads are being loudly praised for the patriotic way in which they have met the requirements of the War Revenue Law in affixing at THEIR OWN EXPENSE the revenue stamps to receipts, bills of lading, etc.

But it is not generally known that, just prior to the enactment of the Revenue law, freight rates to the Pacific Coast were patriotically advanced by the railroads; and yet in such manner that the large shippers are not injured thereby.

The "patriotic" railroads recoup and the large dealers fatten at the expense of the small fry, to say nothing of the patriotic recoupments by cut-downs of wages or number of men.

Under present conditions such things are to be expected—in fact, are the direct result of such conditions. They deserve mention, not to find fault, but to show the true inwardness of things. Which being done, he is indeed a lightweight who cannot draw the lesson.

A RAILROAD CLERK.

The Bill Posting Company, a new trust just formed, issues a large prospectus and argument in its favor so as to attract stockholders. The argument is divided under heads. Some of these are dead give aways. One, for instance, is:

"Under combination no extraordinary genius required."

Another runs this wise:

"At present (under the system of small independent firms) great ability is necessary."

Thus we have a capitalist concern itself demolishing the structure laboriously raised by capitalist professors and parsons about the genius that the "head" of a large capitalist concern must be, and how his profits are but the "reward of such genius."

As capitalism grows more powerful, it becomes more reckless in its expressions. Now the capitalist himself overturns his professors and parsons; the day will come when he will frankly admit our French Comrade Lafargue's theory that, according to capitalism, idleness is the source of all wealth.

The collective heart of our "American capitalists must just now be throbbing with delight and pride. One of their number, once Miss May Leiter, is to be the Vicereine of India.

Miss Leiter was an American heiress; with \$5,000,000, wrung from the brow of the American working class, she purchased a titled Britisher—George N. Curzon, now appointed Viceroy of India.

While our Democratic-Republican capitalists are delighting at the elevation of their country-woman, how does the American proletariat feel about it?

Miss Leiter, that was, not only had gloriously fleeced them before her marriage, but, without continuing to fleece them, could not have preserved the standing needed to become a Vicereine. What she took with her was a five-million power to fleece the American working class so as to keep her in regal splendor.

Wonderful Americanism!

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

THE PEOPLE.

Published at 184 William Street, New York
— EVERY SUNDAY —

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Invariably in advance:
one year \$0.50
six months 0.25
single copies 0.02



SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential)..... 2,068
In 1890..... 15,531
In 1892 (Presidential)..... 21,157
In 1894..... 32,133
In 1896 (Presidential)..... 36,564
In 1897..... 65,673

The Age takes in the newspapers,
or, say sooth unshrinking,
The newspapers take in the age, and
stocks do all the thinking.
Lowell.

The election in Alabama turns out greatly better than imagined. The party put up its ticket in only one county, and there it polled for its first candidate 344 votes.

TAKE NOTE, AND DON'T FORGET.

The disciplinary methods and organic construction of the Socialist Labor party are frequently considered tyrannical and narrow. That "tyrannical" should be translated by "wise," and "narrow" by "long-headed," recent occurrences in Kansas are helping to illustrate.

In Kansas, the Populist party has succeeded in ousting the Republican. That it matters not which is on top, as far as the working class is concerned, theory, based upon previous facts, has foretold; and, subsequently, subsequent facts have confirmed. No observer or careful student of the situation cares one way or another whether it is by a Republican or a Populist administration that the working class is outraged. There is no difference between the two. But, to the two, there is a very great difference which is on top; the difference is the difference between going hungry or going full. The two are struggling for supremacy, each looking out for itself, which is to say, striving to get the larger share of the workers' hide. In this struggle corruption plays its role, and a leading one it is. The Republican party has beaten the bushes and raised a large "campaign," read "corruption" fund, and, upon the heels of this news information reaches this office that a "reform" editor, or two, is, or are, to be paid \$20,000 by the Republican party of Kansas to issue a straight-out Socialist Labor party paper in the State during the campaign; the object being to divide the Populist ranks and give the Republicans a better chance.

As stated above, the fate of Populism leaves the Socialist as cool as the fate of Republicanism; if either can not be downed without setting up the other, the game is not worth the candle; not one step forward has been made; all that would interest us in such a case would be the manoeuvre by which the one set of political frauds worsted the other. But in this instance the Republican manoeuvre is of special interest. It serves mightily to point a moral.

The country has regularly, from campaign to campaign, seen the prostituted editors change their "views," and think as their paymasters click. So long as the point they put upon their nasty faces kept them within the capitalist ranks, the mischief they could do was none,—no one could take them for bona fide representatives of the workingman. But when they put on the external shows of Socialism, the thing is different. The advocacy of the S. L. P. in Kansas, or anywhere, by a party bought by a capitalist party in the expectation of injuring its capitalist competitor, is a conduct that cannot fail to leave its poisonous trail behind. The carrion crow never swoops down upon the quick; the obscure bird scents and picks out carrion only. The "reform" editor in Kansas, chosen by the Republican corruption fund managers, must be, cannot choose but be, political carrion. To-day, for hire, he will write Socialism; to-morrow, for hire, he will write Capitalism. Whether he prove a wise investment or not to those who invest in him in this campaign for the specific purpose he was invested in, one thing is certain, that his conduct will do incalculable mischief in that it will arouse suspicion of insincerity, even of corruption elsewhere, and raise a cloud over all our party propagandists,—if not immediately, later on.

It is not in the party's power to prevent the Republican corruptionists from buying their man; hence it is not in the party's power to wholly prevent the evil. Nevertheless, it is in the party's power to greatly counteract the danger, and thus reduce it to a minimum. The method to that end is to extend a step further the party's principle on the subject of its press. To-day, the party's press is the party's property, and the editors the party's appointees out of its own ranks, consequently, subject, at any time that the party in its wisdom may decree, to be yanked out of office and even expelled from the ranks. The extension of this principle, rendered urgent by the danger that threatens

from Kansas, is the open, emphatic repudiation by the party—local, state and national—of any paper advocating the S. L. P. ticket, whose editor and managers are not party members, thus subject to party discipline; and over whose columns the party has not supreme control.

Only thus can our Kansas comrades pull the sting out of such a capitalist corrupt scheme, because only thus could they frustrate the scheme. Emphatically repudiated, no carrion editor could draw his hire; the party, having washed its hands of such a filthy character, would escape his contamination; and the capitalist parties will be slow to resort to such devices in future.

Only thus could our Kansas comrades keep unsullied the party's flag around which the Kansas proletariat is already assembling.

No false broadness!
No sentimental tolerance!

THE HOW.

On the 27th of last month there was issued from Austin, Tex., the prospectus of a new organization—The Co-operative Commonwealth of America, that is to establish peace on earth and good will toward men.

Before one has read very far, the question begins to gather shape in one's mind, HOW? As one proceeds reading, the question grows in size, in definiteness and in numbers; until one reaches the end, then one huge, clear, distinct "HOW?" sticks out over the whole thing. The prospectus, or platform, and form of organization, give no clue to the answer, while the Socialistic character of its specific demands only serves to incite curiosity all the more on that pregnant question—HOW?

It may be safely set down as an undeniable fact that the impossibility of the continuance of the Capitalist System is generally recognized, and that likewise is recognized the logical sequence of the Socialist System. But a like stage being arrived at on any issue, there is encountered a still more critical stage, the stage embodying in the question of "How?" A stage so critical that, unless safely weathered, all previous progress goes for naught.

History's pages are full of illustrations on the point that the "How?" is the determining factor in all issues:

"Freedom" was the issue that incarnated itself in our Civil War. No sober-minded man will to-day deny that "Freedom" was as much the ideal of Jefferson Davis as it was of Lincoln. The goal seemed one—"Freedom"—, and yet how different did it turn out in fact, how differently was it not molded by the "How?" of each! Again,

"Farmer," the Tory pamphleteer, who, during our Revolutionary days tackled Hamilton, had "Freedom" for his motto, and so had Hamilton. The goal seemed one—"Freedom"—, and yet how differently was it not molded by the "How?" of each! Again,

The Cavaliers of Charles I and the Roundheads of Cromwell both quoted from the identical Scripture: "Religion" was on the lips of both, and in many a bloody encounter the same Biblical passage happened to be the battle slogan of the one and of the other. And yet, how differently did not the "How?" of each set mold its "Religious" goal!

These examples will suffice. To-day a man tells us nothing even if he tells us he wants the "Co-operative Commonwealth." Unless he tells us "How" he wants it, he leaves us wholly in the dark.

The identical mineral and other elements, go up into; the identical climate surrounds; the identical air, water, sunshine is absorbed by the crab apple tree and the contiguous Bartlet pear tree; yet, owing to the different structure of the cells of each of these trees, the identical sap that courses and is filtered through their veins, in the end reappears transmuted into a crab apple, on the one, into a Bartlet pear on the other. The cells of each answer the question "How?"

As with fruits and animals in the domain of biology, so with revolutions or social-products in the domain of sociology. Methods, tactics are all-important. They alone answer the question "How?"—and as the various fruit on trees, the various cubs of animals, tell of the cellular structure through which each is strained and thus give an insight into the biologic "How?", so, and only thus, can the sociologic "How?" give a foretaste of what the goal will be in fact.

The "Co-operative Commonwealth of America" leaves the public in the dark. We shall be glad to give it space to satisfy the just curiosity on its "How?"

Section Minneapolis, Minn., located in the Fifth Minnesota Congress district, nominated Comrade A. Hirschfeld for Congress, and promptly challenged the Republican candidate, Loren Fletcher, to a public debate on the question: "Ought the wage workers, in the pursuit of their own best interests, to vote the Republican ticket?" A similar challenge was addressed to the Populist candidate, T. J. Ceton, and another is said to be ready for S. M. Owen, as soon as he shall have accepted the Democratic nomination.

Will they or any of them accept? Whether they do or not, the challenge is a nail driven into their coffin, a blow to the underpinnings of the common platform they all, without exception,

stand on,—the exploitation of the working class. If they accept, they will be torn to shreds in debate: no representative of capital can stand up against a Socialist; if they decline, their cowardice, born of dishonesty, will not escape the voters of the Fifth Minnesota Congress district.

The agitation and campaign in Chicago is particularly active this year. Open-air mass meetings are held nearly every evening, large crowds attend them, new members are enrolled, and a great quantity of Socialist literature is distributed. Chicago, having shaken off the evil influences that have so often stood in the way of the party's progress, may be expected to move strongly forward in the future.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

Is there any one with heart so flinty who would not sympathize with this plea from the New York "Sun"?:

"Senator Hanna is right. The coming issues of American politics are not the questions of the past, but the new issues arising from the war; and great and sufficient they are!"

How sad, indeed, must not be the plight of some of the New York "Sun's" stock-holders if the old scores were to be revived, if the war and its artificial issues were not to cover up the malfeasances of the capitalists, if bribery to gain Senatorial honors, if corruption to secure Government contracts, of crime to secure capitalist supremacy,—in short, if all this was not to be covered over by the war's broad mantle!

The happiness of rogues let free from the prisoners' dock because of a fire, started by their pals in the court room, could not compare with the happiness of our criminal class of capitalists if war issues were to supersede the burning economic and social issues of the day.

But the victors' shout at Santiago and along its beach will not drown the moan of the victims of Hazleton; the Manila Bay cannonade will not cannonade out of thought and sight the industrial battlefields of Brooklyn, Coeur d'Alene, Tennessee, Buffalo, Leadville, Chicago, Homestead; nor will Miles' triumphant march through Porto Rico wipe out the stains of corruption that disgrace our capitalist government.

No, Senator Hanna is wrong; he and his class shall not escape!

The revelations made in London at the examination of the American "promoter" Hooley furnishes the London, England, "Justice" with the occasion and the material for a squib entitled "Hooley's Tooleys," that runs this wise, and is an all around hit:

"It seems to us that we are having rather too much of these self-advertising bankrupts—Hooley, Bottomley, and their like. Of course, it is amusing as well as discreditable to observe that our hereditary legislators are as keen to be bribed for the use and abuse of their titles as ever their predecessors were for the use and abuse of their wives. But everybody knew that before. Everybody, we say, who has ever studied the history of the English aristocracy, knows well that a meaner or more easily purchasable crew never played fast and loose with the destinies of a great people. The more contemptible become that same great people for allowing their precious nobility to remain their masters. It is no more surprising that English noblemen should tout for subsidies from a mushroom financier than that the ladies of the Court of France should have pestered John Law for shares when he was attending to certain personal requirements which are not usually graced by the presence of ladies. When the whole truth of the Hooley affair is made known, we have little doubt that English ladies of rank will be found to have been almost as destitute of modesty where money was likely to be got, as their French prototypes at the beginning of the development of modern finance. Hooley himself seems to have been an open-handed, unsuspicious, conceited fool. Now he is 'blowing the gaff' on all and sundry to some purpose. For our part, we cannot see that he is any worse than, if so bad as, the successful capitalists—Mr. G. W. Palmer, for instance—who are honored of all men. Hooley, for the most part, gambled with other people's money, extracted already from the working people. He had a good innings, if a short one, and filled the pockets of aristocrats, newspaper men, and other useless persons. Now he is giving himself another advertisement at his own expense. But we do hope before he finishes he will tell us whether—and if so, how much—he paid for that puff of his greatness which was published in Mr. Keir Hardie's 'Labour Leader'."

The ship of the Seattle, Wash., "Post-Intelligencer" has at last been struck by the torrent of the Socialist movement. The S. L. P. convention, reported in another column of this issue, the first of its sort held in the State, together with its clean-cut, bull's-eye-hitting pronouncements, have set the "Post-Intelligencer" careening. It calls the declarations of the convention, particularly the one on the war, "an outrageous piece of folly"; it dilates on the "hardships" suffered by the Roosevelts, and almost hints at their mythical wounds, and it indignates at the call to the workingmen to "stand up like men and overthrow the capitalist system at the ballot box."

Poor "Post-Intelligencer"! An Indian, seeing a railroad for the first time and trying to keep it back with the incantations of his Medicine Man, cuts no sorrier picture on the pages of the World's History than do the scribblers on these capitalist sheets.

The Minneapolis, Minn., "Tocsin," a few weeks ago announced by us to appear soon, has been born. That it understands its mission well may be judged from the following passages with which it introduces itself:

"The 'Tocsin' will devote itself wholly to the interests of the wage-working class. It will know neither fear nor favor. It will never swerve from its straight and narrow path in order to conciliate an enemy. It will be as proud of its capitalist foes as of its proletarian friends. It will tell the whole truth, and nothing more, however distasteful that truth may be. It will not flatter ignorance by juggling with empty words. It will be as 'narrow,' as 'bigoted,' as 'intolerant' as the chemist or the mathematician. It will firmly believe that the simple truth, however unwelcome at first, must finally prevail."

"The 'Tocsin,' then, will stand for complete and exact education of the workers, rigid discipline within the party, and the most aggressive and uncompromising tactics toward the foe. If the workers give it their loyal support it will yet ring the knell of capitalist tyranny, and deal out the joyful announcement of real freedom, actual equality, and the true brotherhood among men."

Our new co-laborer is published for and under the control of the State Committee of the Socialist Labor party of Minnesota, by the Socialist Publishing Association, a corporation without capital stock, the whole revenue of which must be expended for Socialist propaganda.

The "Industrial Mutualists" of Pottstown, Pa., a radical organization for education on economics, seeing that the local capitalist papers had gone into a conspiracy of silence against the Socialist Labor party ticket in the field in Pennsylvania, has done a very handsome thing. It printed and distributed broadcast a leaflet with the party's full ticket, and accompanied that with quite an extensive and scathing criticism of the existing capitalist political parties, together with a praiseful explanation of Socialism and of the Socialist Labor party, and calling upon the voters to work for and vote that ticket.

Its closing remarks concern the organization of the Socialist Labor party. On this head it says:

"Thus far, as an organization, the S. L. P. has been kept positively free from heresy and hypocrisy, notably its stern and effectual prevention of that sly and persistent scheme of the Competitionists called 'Singletaxism,' to secure a foothold in this as it did in all other Collectivist parties, although its policy is just the reverse of Socialism. But shrewd capitalism uses this covert individualism as an excellent disintegrator of such organizations, of which several woeful examples could be cited. Nor has that combination of fraud and foolishness, the 'fusion' trick ever been imposed on said party, to its honor be it said. While the party management and system of operations could often be much improved, especially in the treatment of co-workers, yet the earnest vigilance exercised in accepting comrades, and the profound intelligence bestowed upon the preservation of the cardinal principles and essential ideas of the great, good cause from perversion and corruption, does much to keep the whole concern pure and consistent—and therewith a forward outlook should always be kept, for should the S. L. P. once consider itself so perfect that no further progress can, or need be made, then most surely would its days be numbered, as that is the natural penalty paid by all organisms, when they stop going forward, they decay and die."

It would seem a thankless task to make any criticism that may sound adverse on a leaflet so admirably well put together, and, indeed, so flattering to the integrity and wisdom that pervades the organization of the S. L. P. Nevertheless there is one thought or suggestion in the passage quoted above that does not do justice to the S. L. P. To point out this defect is not amiss.

The S. L. P. is the last organization to consider itself to be for all time. It knows it is a means to an end. That end once achieved, the S. L. P. will cease to be needed, and will disband as gleefully as did the Society of Abolitionists after the Civil War. Would that day had come!

The aims of the S. L. P. once attained, our people once freed from the animal burden of toil for material existence, new issues will arise with new vistas, and new organizations will be required for the occasion. But the battle is not yet fought. As yet the soldiers are but drilling, and the battalions forming for the oncoming struggle. Its present tenacity of life is no symptom of the party's conduct when its life work shall have been done, and its life be no longer needed; nor will the party ever be found slow in the future, any more than in the past, to adapt its organic structure so as to meet the requirements of the growing, sound, uncompromising, and revolutionary movement needed to accomplish its aim—the total overthrow of capitalism, the liberation de facto of the proletariat.

Comrade John Robertson, of Cotati, Cal., has in the San Francisco, Cal., "New Charter" this set of questions and prompt answers:

"Will a willing slave vote for his master?"
"In a minute."
"A class-conscious one?"
"Never in the world."

"Will government aid the locking-out capitalists?"
"In a minute."
"The locked-out workers?"
"Never in the world."
"Will a Populist leader sell out?"
"In a minute."
"A Socialist?"
"Never in the world."
"Would Harriman, our S. L. P. candidate for Governor, debate with Maguire, the San Francisco Single Tax politician, again?"
"In a minute."
"Maguire with Harriman again?"
"Never in the world."

The "Social Economist" published in San Antonio, Texas, is a new publication that has entered the field of the ongoing debate on the Social Question; and it has reached this office recommended as a Socialist paper. We fail to find one editorial line or thought that would bear out the opinion of its being Socialist: true enough, it publishes the Socialist Labor party platform and Comrade Watson's article on Socialism, but, with even-handed "impartiality," it also publishes the Populist platform; nowhere, editorially, is any evidence given of the understanding of the class struggle between the working class and the capitalist class, consequently, of a knowledge of that mechanism of society that points to Socialism as the only logical solution, and to the tactics that are imperative under the circumstances.

That this opinion is not hypercritical, and how important a clear understanding of the class struggle is, unless one is ready and willing at any time to capsize, the following passage from the leading editorial of the "Social Economist" of the 5th instant will bring out strong. The passage is this:

"John P. Altgeld is the best friend labor has to-day among the prominent men of Illinois."

So far from this being true, Altgeld is about the very worst enemy of the working class in the country.

The man who will indulge in radical sounding phrases, and at the same time do the practical work for the capitalist; the man who will pose as a friend of labor by denying Cleveland's right to interfere with the military in a strike, while he himself lets the militia loose upon the strikers; the man who, before the workers poses as their champion in Chicago against Cleveland, and then comes to New York to justify his conduct before capitalists, and does so by enumerating all the deeds of high-handed brutality that he committed against the workers; the man who declares for the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 as indispensable to freedom and inveighs against "gold bugs," and at the same time carefully has all the leases of his real estate made payable expressly in gold; the man who seeks to gain popularity among the workers by subsidizing an Anarchist paper; the man who never once declared in favor of the abolition of the wage system of slavery, i. e., in favor of the abolition of his own class' system of wage-slavery and exploitation, and quickly joins any and every movement that, by reason of its wild language is likely to mislead the workers away from their own, the Socialist Labor party, and carry them into the quagmire of bourgeois radicalism;—such a man is a demagogue, such a man is a scheming charlatan, such a man is a dangerous enemy of the revolutionary movement of the proletariat. He is a lure, a decoy duck, an ignis fatuus.

A Socialist paper is aware of the fact; it is aware of the principles that underlie the fact; it is aware of the necessity of making this fact clear, of doing all in its power to counteract the perfidy of the Altgelds. No Socialist paper would fall into the trap of Altgeldism. The "Social Economist" is not a Socialist paper to-day. We trust, however, that it may have an honest foundation, and that it may be gifted with sufficient manliness to take this criticism in good part, and hasten to correct its errors.

This, from the Cleveland, O., "Citizen" is a correct and timely statement of facts, but closes with a hope that, we fear, is not well founded:

"Weissman's alleged shortage of \$5,000, as reported by the bakers' delegates, is a severe blow to the Journeymen bakers' national organization if true. Weissman, as we have had occasion to show before, was an ultra-conservative while general secretary of the bakers; he bitterly antagonized Socialists and posed as an Anarchist pure and simpler, and pretended to despise 'the mire of politics,' at the same time resorting to the most disreputable wire-pulling, 'independent' politics, and latterly becoming a shining light in the plutocratic Citizens' Union party of New York. The bakers, who of all toilers are in a deplorable condition, are entitled to sympathy. Still, while lacking time and means to gain a clear understanding of economics, their very slavish position ought to instinctively teach them that there is gross inequality and high-handed robbery in our present capitalist system, and that any man who advises them to stay out of an organization, whether it be a labor union or a labor party, sworn to abolish such injustice and exploitation, is a double-dyed villain and a traitor, and he ought to be made to get over to the thieves class whose tool he is. It is to be hoped that the bakers will never be fooled by another rascal, and that they will join the progressive workingmen, even though they may be 'kaffirs.'"

Syracuse, N. Y.
THE PEOPLE always for sale at M. Lem's, 470 S. Salina street, Syracuse, N. Y.



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—Where were you last evening? I called at your place and you were away.

Uncle Sam—I was at the primaries of the Socialist Labor party; we had delegates to elect to the State Convention.

B. J.—Well, I am surprised how a man of your intelligence can go to work so foolishly.

U. S.—Why, it isn't a week ago you admitted to me that Socialism, and Socialism alone, was the right thing, and that everything else was poppycock, as you expressed it—

B. J.—That's all right, and I think so yet. But what I mean is your methods. There you go through a lot of trouble to set up a new party; you stay late and worry and fret and contend with a lot of difficulties that are all of your own seeking in your endeavor to build up a new party. Now, all that is unnecessary—

U. S.—Unnecessary!!!

B. J.—Yes; unnecessary.

U. S.—I hope you haven't turned Anarchist?

B. J.—Not much!

U. S.—How then do you expect to conquer the public powers?

B. J.—Through one of the existing old parties.

U. S. (putting his hands to his ears)—Say that again, will you?

B. J. (sententiously)—Through one of the existing old parties.

U. S. bursts out laughing.

B. J.—You won't laugh if you listen to me.

U. S.—I shall certainly listen, knowing I am going to be tickled almost to death.

B. J.—We'll see about that. Don't you say yourself that for everyone of those lazy, loafing, sponging capitalists there are a hundred of us workingmen?

U. S.—At least that many.

B. J.—Good. And don't you conclude yourself that if the workingmen were to vote as one man they would swamp their capitalist fleecers?

U. S.—That's just what I said.

B. J.—Now, I would like you to tell me by what process of reasoning you could escape the conclusion that the class that is numerous enough to swamp the capitalist class at the polls on election day must be numerous enough to swamp the capitalist at the primaries. Tell me that.

U. S. (tries hard to suppress a smile and to look serious and interested)—Why, man, right you are. I wouldn't attempt to escape that conclusion. The working class could carry the primaries as quickly as it could the elections. No doubt about that.

B. J.—Well, there is your solution. There are the Democratic and the Republican parties. Let us pick one out. Let us march to its primaries. Let us capture it. There we would be forthwith in the possession of an existing party without going through the bother of building up a new one. Ain't I right, now?

U. S.—Let me understand you. Your plan is that we all march into, say, the Democratic party primaries—

B. J.—Exactly.

U. S.—And out-vote the capitalists and their politicians—

B. J.—Just so.

U. S.—And in that way elect all our delegates—

B. J.—Just so.

U. S.—And then?

B. J.—And then?

U. S.—Yes, "and then?"

B. J.—Well—

U. S.—What then?

B. J.—What then?

U. S.—Yes, "what then?"

B. J.—I don't understand what you mean; what are you driving at?

U. S.—You don't propose to frame up your delegates and hang them on the walls of our kitchens, do you?

B. J.—Why, no!

U. S.—What do you propose to do with them?

B. J.—What do I propose to do with them?

U. S.—Yes; what do you propose to do with them?

B. J.—Why, let them go to the State Convention.

U. S.—Who will pay their fare, their hotel and other expenses.

B. J. scratches his head.

U. S.—Master Smarty, you are tired. You imagine that if you capture a capitalist party, you have captured something. When the working class captures the Government, it has captured all the things needed to carry out the Government. But when we capture a capitalist party, we capture nothing. The treasury of such party, the money needed to hold conventions, to agitate, etc., etc., is not party property. It is in the pockets of the several capitalists as their private property. You capture their primary, and you have captured an empty shell. To make that shell a valuable thing you would have to go ahead and organize; indeed, you would have to organize in order to capture the primary; and that organization would have to be virtually a new party. Having to go anyhow through the trouble of building up what is equivalent to a new party, you might as well set up a new name, and free yourself from the bad odor of the old. Think this carefully over: Revolutions are not made by a trick.

The English translation of Karl Marx' Eighteenth Brumaire," that recently ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 78 pages, with Marx' picture as frontispiece. This work is of great value. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student, even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 64 E. 4th street, N. Y. City. Price 25 cents.

AMONG GRANITE CUTTERS.

Exhilarating Discussion Going on Between New and Old Unionism.

An interesting discussion has broken out in the columns of the "Granite Cutters' Journal" between members of the Granite Cutters' National Union. It is upon the burning subject of What is Unionism? The below letter in the Journal, furnished by Comrade Lemmon, the corresponding secretary of the Barre, Vt., Union, shows both the superiority of New Trade Unionist argument and the vulgarity of his pure and simple antagonists. This is the portion of interest:

"In answer to my critics, Brothers Matson and Combe, I would point out that it is because I believe in advanced, intelligent and militant trade unionism that I take the attitude I do in those letters. It has always seemed to me nothing short of downright ignorance for the workers to organize themselves into unions, to protect and fight for their own defense in strikes, and then 'scab it' on Election Day, by voting a capitalist ticket. You would distrust any one who recommended that you should trust the leadership of a strike to a capitalist whom you were fighting in the shop, but see nothing incongruous in sending the same men to represent you in the State where they have infinitely greater power to work you harm, inasmuch that those who control the machinery of government have at their disposal the whole resources of civilization—the military, the police and the judiciary. The workers still waste, and worse than waste the most potent weapon for their own defense and emancipation by being divided against themselves on capitalistic issues. One section believes that Democratic Codlin is their friend and not Republican Short, and vice versa.

"The eight-hour question is but a little thing compared with the change every class-conscious worker knows has got to be accomplished before the working class can emancipate themselves from the wage slavery of to-day. In every country where the class ownership of the means of life is the foundation stone of the State, we find the workers are afflicted by chronic poverty alternated by periods of actual starvation. The modern State, as Robert Blatchford has said, might fitly be compared to a ship on which the passengers are fed on venison and wine, and the crew on bones and bilge water. The reason for this state of things is evident. Their explanation lies in the fact that the tools or means whereby the workers live are owned by the capitalist class who constitute but a small part of the actual population.

"The propertyless worker can only have access to the means of life on condition that he yields up the greater part of his product to the monopolizers of the means of life. Thus we find that here in America the working class only receive on a general average from 17 to 20 per cent. of the value created by their labor. Thus, also, we almost continuously hear the cry of overproduction raised. The working class receives but twenty cents to purchase a dollar's worth of goods for every dollar in value they create, and there being but a small outlet in the way of foreign markets for the disposal of the surplus product, under those circumstances glut is inevitable and the working class is placed in the anomalous position of starving in the midst of the superabundance which their labor has created. The only remedy in sight for this state of affairs is Socialism, and Socialism can only be realized when the working class become intelligent and understand the power and proper use of the ballot, and the position they occupy in modern civilization. Are the elegant houses we build intended for the working class to occupy? Is the fine cloth we weave for the producer or the parasite to wear? How much of the best wine and beer comes our way in this hot weather? Not much. We are not always in a position to have even a drink of blige water. The hot fetid room of a boarding house to sleep in, and the tough boarding house steak to eat, this is in a great measure our lot. "Democrats" like young Wanamaker can afford to spend \$20,000 on a single dinner for himself and a score of his friends. Don't here jump at the conclusion that I am instigated in writing thus out of mere envy for the lot of a Wanamaker. I do not want to have or enjoy anything that is not equally within the power of every decent citizen to enjoy also. I know that capitalism was inevitable in the progress of the social development of the human race, and that under existing conditions every one must either be a slave or a slave driver. Nevertheless, this is no reason why we the disinherited should live in a fool's paradise and imagine ourselves free when we are only granted the right of existence on condition we enter the degrading servitude, and submit to be exploited for the profit of a class. It may be said I have wandered from the point at issue and which originated this controversy, namely, whether it was best to abide by trade union action, pure and simple, in gaining our demands in 1900. There is no need why I should go over this ground again. I gave reasons why I believed we ought to adopt the new trade unionist policy in gaining those measures of amelioration, and none of the objections urged by Messrs. Matson and Combe have induced me to alter my convictions regarding the matter. Brother Matson's letter contains nothing of argument, only mild abuse, an overdone pun on my name (the latter part of which I have always thought was a mistake; anyhow I am not to be held liable for blame in this respect at least) and an appeal to our constitution and the makers thereof to come forward and defend their work. I have not attacked our constitution. I only want to go beyond it. We are told that everything must either progress or retrograde. Consequently, I am for progress in thought and action. "When Mr. Dick was told that his room was not big enough to swing a cat in, he replied that did not matter, as he did not want to swing a cat." "Men are more than constitutions." Unlike the laws of the Medes and Persians, constitutions can be changed to meet altered conditions. It is also, I believe, a mistake to suppose our new constitution

has accomplished anything in the way of educating our members, as seems to be believed. There is not one in every fifty of our members who really knows what the constitution contains, and is only referred to when questions of dispute on merely transitory matters arise. Mr. Matson seems to belong to that class of men who believe "that if the mental and moral enlightenment of the working class could be made up of dissolving views of Palestine coupled with small sodas" all would be well, but unfortunately for his parochial ideas some of us insist on discussing larger aims; hence his perturbation. In answer to Brother Combe's argument that it is to Great Britain's free trade policy that is to be attributed the defeat of the British engineers in their recent strike, I would point out that, so far from this being so, the Continental workers subscribed money to assist their comrades in Great Britain to gain their fight and refused to work against them in any shape or manner. The reason for their defeat is to be found in the fact that the masters were perfectly organized and ably led by Colonel Dyer. The men also were well organized, and the strike was well conducted, but whereas the men had \$1,000,000 and numbered over 80,000, the masters had many millions and did not number a fifth part of 80,000; hence the defeat of the men.

ERNEST LEMMON, Cor. Sec.,
Barre, Vt. 8 Kieth avenue.

OFFICIAL.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary
Henry Kuhn, 124 William street, N. Y.
NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary
Robert Bandlow, 193 Champlain St., Cleveland, O.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA.
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary
George Moore, 61 Ryde St., Montreal.

NOTICE—For technical reasons, no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee.
Meeting of August 16th, with Comrade Stahl in the chair. The financial report for the week ending August 13th showed receipts to have been \$165.80; expenditures, \$54.71.

The Polish Executive Committee appeared in the morning of 15th, and after an exhaustive hearing on the question of removal and the appointment of an editor, it was decided that the former question be left for the decision of the general vote of the Polish section on the 20th. The question of the approval of the editor appointed by the Polish Executive Committee, decision was deferred until the next session.

The Board of Appeals reported to have decided in favor of the appeal of Comrade A. J. Joss from the decision of Section Evergreen.

Charters were granted to new sections at Jacksonville, Ill., and Omaha, Neb., by L. A. MALKIEL, Rec. Sec'y.

To All S. L. P. Sections.
Dear Comrades:—

For nearly eighteen months, the New Charter, published at 117 Turk street, San Francisco, has been the official organ of the S. L. P. for California. It has been a very necessary factor in the work on this coast; while the paper has steadily gained ground, on its merits, by soliciting subscriptions, taking proper support; quite a number of sections and comrades throughout the country have rendered aid by soliciting subscriptions and making the paper known to the public. This help has by close economy enabled us to keep the paper's accounts balanced, but the burden is still too heavy on those immediately connected with "The New Charter" publication.

It is conceded that "The New Charter" is valuable S. L. P. propaganda, and we earnestly request comrades that you give it a chance on its merits, by soliciting subscriptions, taking proper support; quite a number of sections and comrades throughout the country have rendered aid by soliciting subscriptions and making the paper known to the public. This help has by close economy enabled us to keep the paper's accounts balanced, but the burden is still too heavy on those immediately connected with "The New Charter" publication.

The California State Executive Committee, S. L. P., by

EDSEL HECHT, Sec'y.
The above call has been endorsed by the National Executive Committee, and party sections are urged to render what aid they can give.

HENRY KUHN, Sec'y.

Connecticut.

HARTFORD, Conn.—At the last regular meeting of Branch III (American), it was resolved to meet hereafter at 234 Asylum street, room 10, on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, instead of Sundays as heretofore. The party here agreed to participate in the Labor-day picnic, arranged by the progressive labor organizations of this city, to be held at Link's Grove, Blue Hills. English and German speakers will address the audience.

FRED. FELLERMANN, Sec'y.

Massachusetts.

Section Chelsea, Mass., of S. L. P., meets every first and third Saturdays each month, at Harvard Hall, Cyprian street, near Everett avenue, Chelsea, at 7.30 p. m.

H. A. KORTE, Sec'y.

LYNN, Mass.—At a regular business meeting of the Lynn section of the S. L. P., held August 7th, a committee of three was elected to issue an appeal through the columns of THE PEOPLE to all sections throughout the State, asking financial aid to assist the Lynn Branch in procuring uniforms. The objects of this band are as follows: To play, free of charge, at all meetings, rallies and parades of the S. L. P. in Mass. The Sections to pay for transportation only. Send all monies to John A. Henley, rear 45 Green street, Lynn, Mass.

C. N. WENTWORTH,
JOHN MOSS,
JOHN A. HENLEY,
Committee.

New Jersey.

Grand preparations are being made for the Labor Day Festival, Parade and Picnic of the United Labor Organizations, Turn-Vereins and Singing Societies of Passaic County, on Monday, September 13th, 1898, at Saal's Hall, Passaic, N. J. Music by Prof. Henry Dwyer. The following is a partial list of the events: prize walk, prize cake walk, prize bowling, prize contest between the various Turn-Vereins participating, prize contest in shooting, three-legged race, sack race, fat men's race, donkey race, etc., prize games for women and children, grand march for children, under eight years old; every child participating will receive a handsome present. Total of prizes amounting to \$200. Ice-cream, cakes, pies, sandwiches, tea, coffee and clam chowder will be sold on the grounds. City permits for admission to the picnic will be 15 cents. Children under 12 years with parents will be admitted free. Commencement at 2 P. M. Parade to start at 10 A. M. sharp from the vicinity of Main and Ellison streets. It will consist of all the labor organizations, Turn-Vereins, singing societies, Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Societies of Passaic County that desire to participate. There will be no reserved seats. Those who desire to participate as individuals. There will be a division composed of 200 boys dressed in overall uniforms, with workmen's hats, carrying labor mottoes. Decorated trucks will be furnished for the little girls who wish to participate in the parade. Invitations have been extended to other organizations. If there are any organizations that have not received invitations, they are hereby requested to communicate with the Secretary of the Labor Day Picnic Committee not later than Friday, September 2d. Any organization wishing to send delegates to act with the Committee on Arrangements may do so. Please notify Secretary that they may be informed of the time and place of meetings. The arrangements will be under the auspices of the Passaic County Socialist Labor Party. All communications should be addressed to Secretary Labor Day Committee, Wm. E. McCullough, 209 Main street, Passaic, N. J.

Matthew Maguire, Chairman. John C. Duff, Treasurer. Wm. E. McCullough, Secretary. John Berger, Agent. Emil Myers, Henry Conner, Albert Selik.

HOBOKEN, N. J., Aug. 12th, 1898.
Committee of Hudson, Section Hudson Co., S. L. P., held its regular meeting on Sunday, August 7th, 1898, in Fehren's Hall, 168 Beacon avenue, Jersey City. The following communications were presented and action taken upon: From Alliance of Polish Branches, S. L. P., with 10 tickets, bought by the County Committee and presented to the Polish Branch. From Comrade F. Kraft, delegate to State Convention: That each branch elect a committee to prepare a list of names from the registry list; each name to cost one-fourth of a cent; shall send to the State Committee a sum of money, as much as they can afford, for which they will receive wrappers. The committee shall address these wrappers and send them in bulk to the "Fatherless People," 124 Jackson street, from where they will be mailed at the rate of 15 for 1 cent; must be sent not later than October 1st, 1898. Received and filed. From Comrade Orgonik who resigned from the Executive Board of Socialist Fila and Drum Corps; resignation not accepted. From National Board of Appeals, requesting reports of Grievance Committee, attended by Secretary; received and filed. Another N. J. A. sustains the action of Section Hudson; received and filed. From Section Denver in reply to one by Secretary; received and filed. That each branch who has any outstanding tickets of the Labor Festival shall collect same and keep the money.

To hold a Section meeting and a Convention for the nomination of candidates for Congress—man, State Senator, eleven Assemblymen, and Commissioners and other officers to take place on SATURDAY, AUGUST 20th, 1898, at 3 P. M. PROMPT, in Weitzel's Hall, 609 Paterson avenue, West Hoboken.

That the request of the Polish Branch be granted; that pamphlets in Polish be printed at the expense of the County Committee.

To appropriate 50 cents for a charter for Section Hudson County.

Receipts, \$22.55; expenditures, \$22.60.

AUG. E. SCHROEDER, Sec'y.

New York State Convention.

The Sections of the State of New York are hereby notified that the Common Council Chamber of Rochester has been engaged as the meeting hall for the State Convention. The convention will be called to order on Saturday, August 27th, at 10 o'clock A. M. sharp. The Sections are requested to see to it that their delegates are in attendance promptly at the appointed time and place.

Delegates may obtain all information desired as to hotel facilities, etc., by writing to Comrade William Lippert, Secretary of Section Rochester, 323 Chamber of Commerce Building, Rochester.

HUGO VOGT,
Secretary of the State Committee.

The Westchester County Section has agreed that Section Yonkers shall elect a delegate to the State Convention and the delegate will be in charge of the delegation.

The delegate will make his report to the County Convention, which will be held early in September.

Sections in the County will please make nominations as follows: 1st Ward, Monday, September 5th; the comrades must remember that there is a full county ticket to nominate and must do all in their power to help all the ticket especially. Remember the date of the Yonkers picnic is August 28th, at Schaub's Farm.

Section Greater New York held at the Labor Lyceum, on the 10th inst. its extraordinary convention to elect delegates to the Rochester State Convention that is to meet on the 27th instant. The primary convention, presided over by Patrick Murphy, decided to elect 3 delegates in the following order: 1st, 2nd and 3rd wards.

The following were elected as follows on the several candidates:

Hugo Vogt, 59; Thos. A. Hickey, 58; J. Simpson, 41; Lucien Sanial, 65; Max Forster, 66; Daniel De Leon, 57; Henry Kuhn, 65; Howard Balkam, 43; John J. Joss, 61; John J. Joss, 61; W. H. Wherry, 16; Cook, 12; Grube, 21; and Berlin, 18. The delegates elected are: Vogt, Hickey, Kuhn, Sanial, De Leon, Forster, Simpson, Balkam, and Joss, besides Frank Smith, of Richmond County.

To the Members of Section New York, S. L. P., in the Borough of Brooklyn.

10th Assembly District.

NEW YORK CITY.—The first meeting of the arrangements committee for the concert and ball which will take place in Arlington Hall, on Saturday, October 29th, was held on Monday evening, August 15th. It was decided to have 1,500 tickets, 100 for members, 1,400 for the general public, to be 25 cents each, extra ladies' ticket 10 cents. The committee took upon itself not to spare money nor time in securing the best and most efficient talent for the concert and make the affair as grand and as perfect as possible, as becomes the Banner District of the S. L. P.

It was further decided to request all party and progressive organizations not to arrange any affairs for that date so as to avoid opposition and we can make our affair a success, financially as well as otherwise, which will enable us to bring the campaign in our district, which promises to be a very hot and interesting one, to a happy and successful conclusion.

NEW YORK.

Comrades—The undersigned has received a communication from the Ward, Branch I, and endorsed by four other subdivisions of the Section, in the Borough of Brooklyn, calling upon the Organizer, in accordance with Article 4, Section 6, of the By-Laws, to call a meeting of the members of the Section, to be held in the Borough of Brooklyn, for the purpose of bringing before the meeting a proposition of reorganization, the same to be submitted to a general vote of the party meeting on the 10th inst. New York, S. L. P. In view of this notice a Borough meeting of the members of Section New York, S. L. P., residing in Brooklyn, will take place on Thursday, September 23rd, at 8 P. M., at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street, Brooklyn. Members should not fail to attend.

L. ABELSON, Organizer,
Section New York, S. L. P.

HICKEY'S TOUR.

Comrade Thos. A. Hickey started on an agitation tour of this State on the 10th inst. His route and dates are as follows:

August

" 20th and 21st—Olean.

" 22nd—Jamestown.

" 23rd and 24th—Dunkirk.

" 25th and 26th—Buffalo.

" 27th, 28th and 29th—Rochester.

" 30th—Batavia.

" 31st—Syracuse.

Sept. 1st and 2nd—Syracuse.

" 3d—Oneida.

" 4th and 5th—Utica.

" 6th and 7th—Glensville and Johnstown.

" 8th—Amsterdam.

" 9th and 10th—Schenectady.

" 11th—Glen Falls.

" 12th—White Hall.

" 13th—Port Edward.

General Agitation Fund.

Previously acknowledged \$21.58

C. E. Thompson, New York City..... 1.00

Ernest Lemmon, Barre, Vt..... 1.00

Section Passaic, N. J., per B. F. Keinard..... 1.00

Section Kansas City, Mo., per B. F. Keinard..... 5.00

Total..... \$29.58

HENRY KUHN, Sec'y.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

NEW YORK, August 11.—A special meeting of the General Executive Board was held on the above date at the new headquarters, No. 25 Duane street.

Members present: Patrick Murphy, George Luck, L. Boudin, Wm. Arnold, Samuel Hoffman, Daniel De Leon, Hugo Vogt, Frank Wilson and W. L. Brower.

Comrade Vogt elected chairman of the meeting.

Committee to secure property from ex-Secretary Bohm and ex-Financial Secretary-Treasurer Waldinger reported that they had visited Comrade Waldinger, and he stated he had turned over the money and books to Comrades Luck and Boudin. Committee then called on Comrade Bohm, and he said he had signed Comrades Luck and Boudin that the property he held was ready to be sent to the new headquarters as soon as it would be called for. Comrade Boudin then turned over to Financial Secretary-Treasurer Murphy cash \$12.27, P. O. note for \$10, and a check for \$2.27.

On motion it was decided that Comrades Luck, Boudin, and Wilson send a communication to Comrade Bohm to turn over all the property of the G. E. B. to his successor, Comrade Brower.

Communication received from Comrade Elber, of Allegheny, Pa., in relation to charter application. One from John F. Connolly in relation to the same matter.

On motion the charters were re-granted and the Secretary instructed to send an explanation of the delay.

Communication from Comrade Wehner, Secretary of D. A. 10, of Boston, in relation to joint D. A. meeting, held on August 6th, and stating that D. A. 5 and 10 would take prompt action in recognizing the new Executive Board.

THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to Aug. 17th, 1898.

\$4,575.

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE,
124 William St., N. Y.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

—OF THE—

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor Party of the United States, in Convention assembled, re-affirms the inalienable right of all men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American republic we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty and of happiness.

With the founders of this republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics, can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule.

Ignorance and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

The time is fast coming, however, when, in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possession of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put an end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

RESOLUTIONS.

With a view to immediate improvement in the condition of labor we present the following demands:

1. Reduction in the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.

2. The United States to obtain possession of the mines, railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the Federal government and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

3. The municipalities to obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

4. The public lands to be declared inalienable. Revocation of all land grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with.

5. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money.

6. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country.

7. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation.

8. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt.

9. School education of all children under fourteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary.

10. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumptuary laws. Unabridged right of combination.

11. Prohibition of the employment of children of school age and the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality. Abolition of the convict labor contract system.

12. Employment of the unemployed by the public authorities (county, city, state and nation).

13. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of woman's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.

14. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all occupations, and an efficient employers' liability law.

15. The people to have the right to propose laws and to vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle.

16. Abolition of the veto power of the Executive (national, state and municipal), wherever it exists.

17. Abolition of the United States Senate and all upper legislative chambers.

18. Municipal self-government.

19. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced.

20. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

21. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be free of charge. Abolition of capital punishment.

On motion the Secretary was instructed to prepare the resolutions passed at the last convention, for referendum vote, and submit the same to the Board at the next meeting, on August 17th, 1898.

On motion the Secretary was instructed to notify the Local Alliances that have labels to submit the same to the G. E. B. for approval, as decided by the Buffalo Convention.

Secretary was instructed to notify all L. A.'s and D. A.'s of names of the new Ex. Board and addresses of new headquarters.

Secretary was instructed to get estimates of the supplies necessary to run the general office.

On motion, Comrades Luck, Boudin, Murphy and Brower were appointed a committee to visit D. A. 2 at its next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

W. L. BROWER, Gen'l Sec'y.

The Queens County Committee is hereby discontinued. The CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF QUEENS COUNTY BOROUGH takes its place and meets on the 4th of September, 9 A. M., at COLUMBIA HALL, Long Island City.

JOHN MONROE, Sec'y.

L. Goldmann's Printing Office,
cor. New Chambers and William Sts.
works with Type Setting Machines
German and English.

JOHN OEHLE'S Steam Printing,
87 Frankfort Street 87
Cor. Pearl St.,
Franklin Square E. R. R. Station
Orders will be taken at 116 E. 8th street, between Avenue A and First Ave., New York City, 141

Workmen's Children Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.

The address of the Financial Secretary of the Executive Committee is:
Reinhard Lachner, 13 Bible House,
Room 42, Astor Place, N. Y. City, N. Y.